Hope's Gospel Choir performed in Battle Creek at special concert

JANE BAST
staff reporter

"When we walked in, you could hear the doh," said Hope College Gospel Choir director Darasha Taylor of last Saturday's concert.

The choir initiated the first official Sojourner Truth Day in Battle Creek, performing for a predominantly African-American audience.

"You could tell people were thinking, huh?" Taylor said. "But once we sang we blew them away. People were so receptive. They really enjoyed it.

The Gospel choir participated in an arena event joining 400 voice mass choir in the celebration of Sojourner Truth's place in American history. Later, the choir gave the choir's performance.

"The reception we received was incredible," said Gospel choir member Sarah Johnson ('02). "It was awesome to see so many different people come together for the same purpose.

We were so excited at the additional exposure the concert gave the Gospel choir.

"Normally when we sing, we sing in a church that is familiar with us, but this time we gave a concert on the street," Johnson said. "We could share with totally different groups of people."

Taylor was also pleased with the choir's performance.

"The Lord was glorified. It was a good thing for our school to have a predominantly white institution choir on 2 more CHOIR on 2

Event looks to take back night

GRACIE GEORGE
staff reporter

For many women all over the world, the night is no longer theirs. It has been stolen by those who rape, beat and murder.

The Women's Issues Organization (WIO) is trying to change this. In coordination with a worldwide effort, WIO will sponsor Hope's annual "Take Back the Night" march on Thursday, Sept. 30 at 9 p.m. in the Pine Grove.

The keynote speaker for the evening will be English professor Linda Dove. Professor Jane Dickie, of the psychology department, along with others will follow, delivering speeches at sites around the Hope campus where known acts of violence have occurred. The purpose of the demonstration is to make people aware of violence against women and domestic assaults.

Participants will carry candles and chant at various sites. This effective demonstration gives women, as Alison Eichman ('00), chair of the program, says a "hope for the future.

"Take Back the Night" gives students the opportunity to understand what happens in other people's lives. These demonstrations show reality for some women. "Take Back the Night" was designed to allow students to join together and support victims.

"It's really empowering. It's hard to share your own story. But this creates a safe space to share," said Christine Trinh ('00), co-President of WIO.

She also said that victims are able to reclaim their own rights, to be in 2 more VANDALS on 2

PUSHING THE LIMITS: Even Year Puller Brad Jerdon ('02) gives it his best efforts as he enters the final round of practices before Pull, Saturday, Oct. 2.
Several Series to Feature Representative

The second year of the library lecture series, "Women and Their Work," will host speakers State Representative Patty Birkholz, R-Saugatuck Township.

This year, it will be held in Winters Auditorium at 7:30 p.m. on Sept. 30.

Birkholz, who was named one of the Most Influential Women in West Michigan by Business Direct Weekly in 1998, will discuss her work as a state representative, working with women and their changing status, her career challenges, and how she chose her work.

The five lectures began last year in honor of Librarian Carol Justh-Gavasso, who worked with Van Wylen transfer students when they first arrived. Hope has enrolled a record number of first-year students.

According to a recent press release, the Adamsen Office has been focusing on a major recruitment effort over the past few years, and they see the increase as enrollment as a major payoff.

"Women and Their Work" series begins Sept. 30. For more information, call 517-388-8102.

Setup Process

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I am a minority and I am here on my own merit. —Minerva Perez ('01)

President, Hispanic Student Organization

One big thing I encounter is that people often assume that minorities are here as part of affirmative action or here on a minority scholarship," said Minerva Perez ('01), President of the Hispanic Student Organization.

"This is not always true. I am a minority and I am here on my own merit." Stereotypes can be lessened when people are willing to learn from other cultures and people, instead of making blanket assumptions. "I think that there are stereotypical notions about Hispanics in our community," said Gonzalez. "There are times misunderstandings between the diverse community. But if we are to be a Christian College, if for no other reason than that it is incumbent to know more about the other cultures and members of a global society."

One of Hope's biggest challenges in past years has been to educate students, to make them aware of their global community. "When you come to a liberal arts school, what I feel you're paying so much money for is to get a well-rounded education," Peter said. "Go out of your comfort zone and learn new things."

Serving the community

BETH LOMASNEY

staff reporter

Doing community service in the Holland community could seem impossible. Classes alone are enough to keep any college student busy. Students study for hours, read one book after another, and write papers filled with facts and opinions. Rarely do minority students' activities even try to enjoy themselves. In fact, minority students also give up time towards participating in improving the community. Many find that these acts of goodwill not only make someone else's day, they enjoy themselves as well.

One of the benefits of community service is that it can be a chance to build personal relationships with area children. "Above all, the biggest benefit to volunteering for this group is the opportunity to be a positive role model," Caldwell said.

Lighthouse After School Outreach (LASO), is a program reaching out to the minorities of Holland. Students pick up kids after school at apartment complexes such as Harbor Village or Meadow Lanes, and work with area kids on homework, or simply spent time together.

Hope student Carol Stead ('00) volunteered for LASO for three years. "Since the kids enjoyed it so much, they kept coming back year after year, so in a sense I got to watch them grow up," she said. Hope encourages its students to get involved beyond the walls of the campus. For information on volunteering call Kate MacDonaith ('00) at Volunteer Services at 71441, or stop by the Keppel House for further Community Outreach information.

WHAT IS YOUR IDEAL VOLUNTEER SITUATION?

"I would do Habitat for Humanity." —Cody Fleming ('03)

"To be a Big Sister." Liz Smith ('02)

"I would love to be a part of another missions trip—to help the underprivileged." —Kelly Kiewiet ('01)

"I would want to mentor children." —Sarah Talboga ('03)

"I would do tutoring." —Eric Ross ('03)

"I would do something for someone's house." —Minerva Perez ('01)
Opinion

Hope's proudest tradition

When over 80 individuals come together for a tug-of-war, the event is far from unique. When that same number of people come together for the 102nd time, that makes an event unique.

The Hope College Pull has become a tradition that can sometimes be overlooked. The event runs on such a smooth and regular schedule that a mass number of people can forget what the event means.

For the other 2,700-plus students who have never actually taken part in the three-hour marathon rope challenge, the event may seem no different than any other on campus. To those who have no connection to Hope College, the event may seem completely silly.

But to talk to those who have competed in the Pull, from those who took part in the 1930s to those who compete today, one can feel the bond and uniqueness that the Pull holds. The Pull is far from an ordinary event on the Hope calendar.

What makes the Pull unique is really known only to those who compete. But the hundreds who attend yearly, as Pull alumni or as spectators, can sense the intense admiration and seriousness that those who get down in the pits have.

When the rope is pulled taught on Saturday, Oct. 2 at 3 p.m., Pullers and attendees will both get a crash course in what this tug-of-war is all about. Those who have their take their place in the pits will get a much different feel for the event, than those who simply stand by losing their voices.

Those who have no ties to Hope College will probably never understand the tradition known as Pull. They will have no grasp as the time commitment involved, the work ethic needed, and the bond of family developed. Those individuals who line the pits, that line the Black River, will have a limited concept of this as well.

The 100th anniversary of Pull was held two years ago. Generations of Pullers gathered together to celebrate one of the most important events of their lives.

That's where the uniqueness of the Pull lies. When Australian television attends, it's unique. When Sports Illustrated makes the trip to Holland, it's unique. And when 80-plus men and women pour their heart and soul into an event each year, it's unique.

Intention of a newspaper

It has come to the attention of the Anchor staff that their editorials

Michael Zuidema, has also been accused of stirring up the reader's anxiety. And long as we are working on this staff, we will be learning what "journalism" really means. This often becomes a tough balancing act. How should I react to harsh criticism, when I didn't use almost as much as it comes in?

I have found my opinion on certain aspects of Hope College. I have thrown my voice into the fire for anyone to poke at, and that's when criticism is at it's easiest.

Perhaps that's why I've been harping on the issue of the Pull. To the hundreds who have competed in the Pull, their opinion might have a limited concept of this as well.

Senior thanks student for asking is she was "OK"

I stood at the ledge, looking down these stairs, contemplating. Yes, I must have looked strange standing there at the top landing of the DeWitt stairwell to the young man who started down the stairs from above me. Acknowledging his presence with only a brief look. I continued to stare down a black pile of odd racks on the basement level. For all I knew, I was about to lose my lunch over the rail or, worse yet, wondering how long it would take me to read the bottom of the stairway.

His steps slowed as he passed me, and I, finally a break, he broke the uncomfortable weirdness. "Are you OK?" he said hesitantly. I smiled and explained to him that I was studying the space for a potential sculpture project. The somehow I was able to remember exactly that. "Oh, OK." Relieved, he continued down the stairs and out the door. I knew it looked strange. The whole situation was at once funny and unsettling. I left out a heavy "huh."

But later, as I thought about the bizarre interaction, I felt somewhat grateful. It was actually very kind of that person to just go ahead ask, "Are you OK?" when something didn't seem right, maybe even brave (besides, who knows what your random weirdo standing alone on the top landing of a stairwell might be doing?). It made me wonder how many everyday problems could be solved with just those three words. Roommates could get along better, meetings could run more smoothly, relationships could be mended, teachers could avoid going on strike, postal workers could remember "gr blanket," people would get along better with each other. Even once in a while someone stock a brave neck out to ask "Is everything OK?" That's not to say that sometimes I wish I didn't have to bother, but just honest when some- one accepts that, "I'm great, thank you."

Senior thanks student for asking is she was "OK"
ART AND SOUL
Sara E. Lamers

Free Exchange
Christine Trinh ('00) is breaking new ground. If everything goes according to plan, her magazine “The Millstone” will provide a place for students, faculty, and staff to speak their mind on issues that affect Hope.

Trinh isn’t trying to stir up trouble or cause controversy, merely wants to provide a forum for debate to take place in a healthy, structured manner.

Trinh says that she has received positive feedback. While a number of individuals may support Trinh in her endeavor, no doubt her magazine will make some uncomfortable.

In other words, I feel it is safe to assume that when someone takes a stand on a serious issue, whether it be abortion or homosexuality, those with opposing viewpoints may feel threatened.

But this is not the aim of “The Millstone.” Trinh is more than willing to accept and print submissions that lend support to both sides of any given issue. She hopes to provide a voice to those who feel they have been marginalized or overlooked.

Trinh is encouraging the campus to make use of its First Amendment right to free speech, a vital tool that too many overlook, and don’t take advantage of.

Too often, we do not speak our minds or tackle the heart of a vital issue out of fear of offending others. While this is a valid concern, this should not stop the free exchange of ideas from occurring.

College can be an opportunity time to wrestle with a variety of issues and weigh the many arguments each side presents.

One should feel free to challenge their views without feeling the need to censor them, without the fear of offending. We, as mature and educated individuals, should be able to take a stand on an issue and provide evidence to support it, without worrying that we will come across as hostile.

In other words, when approaching a sensitive issue, there should be an effort to make certain that one presents his or her ideas in a way that respects the other side of the issue.

If this goal is met, no one should be able to justify censoring any material that they do not agree with. Another important factor to keep in mind is that any time conflicting views are presented, it is nearly impossible to sway one side into fully adopting the opposing view.

In short, although we may seek to educate others of our stance, we should not grow dismayed if they do not change their views overnight.

In fact, Trinh is not advocating everyone who visits her website adopt a certain political view. Instead, she hopes the campus will be able to engage in open dialogue — that we will recognize that many sides of an issue exist, all of which have varying degrees of merit.

Trinh also hopes to foster discussion on events or issues that extend beyond the bubble (of Hope). This is a worthwhile goal. All of us will someday leave the safety net of Hope College and find ourselves facing new viewpoints and ideas. It’s inevitable that a time will come when our views will be challenged and we will need to devise a method for defending our beliefs as we listen to what others have to say and learn to open ourselves up to new perspectives.

“The Millstone” can provide us with a chance to exercise our freedoms of speech and hone our listening skills. I encourage you to take advantage of this chance to stretch and grow.

WEB OF WORDS: Nonfiction writer Diane Ackerman kicked off the Visiting Writers Series on Thursday, Sept. 23 at the Knickerbocker Theatre. She read selections from a number of her books, including “A Shlender Thread,” “The Moon by Way of Whiteglobal,” and “A Natural History of Love.” The next installment in the series will take place on September 30, Oct. 21.

Magazine fosters discussion
SARA E LAMERS
interim editor

Christine Trinh (’00) has decided that the best way to accomplish something is to take the initiative upon herself.

After being frustrated with the way campus discussion on controversial issues died out over the summer, Trinh is in the process of producing a political magazine titled “The Millstone.”

“The magazine comes as my reaction to events that took place on campus last spring,” Trinh said. “I felt like there was no closure to the discussion that began and that there were still unresolved issues that need to be addressed. I felt like no one provided a method to tackle this so I decided to provide one for myself.”

Trinh referred to discussion that took place on campus last year concerning issues of homosexuality and Christianity. While Trinh feels that dialogue on these and similar issues did occur, she did not feel they were fully addressed.

In response, Trinh will publish the magazine as an independent study with Professor of English Linda Dove.

“The publication can provide a real opportunity for voices that might otherwise be lost or indirectly silenced to be heard,” Dove said.

Trinh describes it as having a progressive political bent and stresses that all submissions must be somehow political in nature.

Submissions can be about anything political, she said. “They don’t have to be high-profile, but they must be about issues that concern Hope College in some way.”

Contributions may take any publishable form of writing or art work, such as fiction, nonfiction, poetry, critical essays, photography, caricatures, or drawings.

“I want to produce something that will get people thinking and challenge them to examine what they believe,” Trinh said.

“We are not seeking to censor them, that is not the aim of the magazine,” she said. “I want to produce something that has political meaning and that will challenge them to examine what they believe, and also respond to other views in a systematic way.”

Trinh decided to produce the magazine at a website, because she felt it would be more cost effective.

Pianist provides classic sound
DAWN DODGE
staff reporter

Dawn Dodge

Prize-winning musician William Westney will begin the Artist Piano Series with his performance on Friday, Oct. 1 at 8 p.m. in Dimnent Memorial Chapel.

“I’ve known Westney for a number of years through various professional organizations,” said Charles Aschbrenner, professor of music. “Of his uniqueness, I wanted him to come to Hope.”

Westney’s recital will include pieces by Sibelius, Brahms, Muczynski, Chopin, and Liszt, as well as arrangements by Shostakovich and Evans, both jazz pianists.

“These pieces will provide a welcome and refreshing change from the usual all-piano recital,” Aschbrenner said.

In addition to the concert, Westney will present his “Un-Masterclass,” a piano playing workshop that has been described as “discussing” by The New York Times. The workshop will be held in Snow Auditorium in Nykerk on Saturday, Oct. 2 at 9:30 a.m.

“He works with both the performer and the audience together, concentrating on technical and communication issues,” Aschbrenner said.

Topics such as moving beyond inhibited and communicating a message through the music will be discussed, as well as feeling more secure in public performance.

Aschbrenner notes that the workshop will not only be beneficial to those who play piano, but to others as well.

“This is a good workshop for anyone who has to get up before an audience and do a presentation whether it be speaking, acting, dancing, singing, or playing an instrument,” he said.

Westney was the top piano prize-winner of the General International Competition, and has received three teaching awards, including the Yale School of Music Alumni Association’s “Certificate of Merit.”

He has performed as a soloist with a wide range of orchestras and symphonies, and has also performed widely in Europe, Asia, and the United States.

In addition to appearing on several radio and television broadcasts, Newsweek magazine chose one of his recordings as one of its “Ten Best American Music Recordings” of the year.

Admission to the concert is free for Hope students. For others, tickets will be available at the door, $5 for adults and $3 for seniors.
La FoodServicia Nostra

In my role as a journalist, it is my duty to conduct investigative work, and this past week I happened to stumble upon one of the darkest secrets of Hope College. Using Public Safety incident reports, secondhand knowledge, and my keen deductive skills, I have cracked into a profound criminal pattern that permeates the safety of each and every student, staff, and faculty member.

My first clue that all was not right on Hope's chilly little campus was an incident report that occurred on Sept. 14: "A stray dog found running through Graves Hall was returned to its owner."

This seemed fishy to me. Usually when I see dogs running about on the campus, especially in the fall, they are always well-behaved and following their masters. This dog was obviously fleeing something, and did not want to go to its "owner."

Was there something wrong with the owner? Did the students think the dog was a stray because it wasn't on a leash?

A second disturbing event happened on Sept. 17, just three days after the dog incident. "A student reported that her car had been sprayed with a substance that appeared to be cheese."

After a series of sophisticated chemical analyses with a box of Windex, Public Safety positively identified the substance as bovine in origin, possibly a member of the cheddar family. The report neglected to delve into the motives behind the incident. Was this just a random act of vandalism, or was this part of a larger conspiracy? I quickly dismissed the random acts of vandalism theory because of the logistics behind coating even a mid-sized automobile with any faction-oriented agents.

With my excellent deduction skills, I found a link in the crimes. It was determined that the student whose car was coated did not have a dog. I instantly reached the conclusion that she didn't have a dog because, yes, you guessed it, her dog had been stolen.

It was a crime wave — I was sure that the lost dog and the cheese car were not isolated incidents.

My masterpiece of criminal investigation came to a head on Sept. 24: "Public Safety investigated a suspicious situation at the Phelps Hall kitchen. As a frequent visitor to Phelps, this fact was a little disturbing. But the safety report was so vague, it was scary.

Here, as a service to you, is the "inside scoop.""

It took a lot of detective work, but I finally made the connection between the rundown dog incident and Hope's food service. My first clue came during a routine inspection of the kitchen. The big silver vat with rotating knives in the back — the "Dogomatic 2000" — was a definite clue.

I was also suspicious when I realized that the student who was chasing the "poor little Mr. Ed" through the halls of Graves was wearing a Phelps uniform — it was the link I needed.

I had no choice but to tip off Public Safety. Unfortunately, Phelps employees denied any and all knowledge of the incident. But the food-sized custodian was conspicuously absent upon the arrival of the campus officers.

In an unrelated move, Food Service announced that there will be no sirloin in Phelps for a couple of weeks.

This may be only the tip of the iceberg. I may have stumbled upon a ring of criminals, a Food Service Mafia. La FoodServicia Nostra, if you will — that operates here at Hope.

I implore each and every reader to watch your back. You never know when or if someone you love could be coated in cheese, lose your pet to a industrial strength blender, or find a two-foot pile of sliced ham tucked into your bed.

Already the workers at Phelps are giving me the cold shoulder, and I think we all know why.

Putting on Hope's public face

Andrew Kleczez
Sports editor

Tom Renner has been a permanent fixture on the Hope media scene since 1965 when he started as an Anchor photographer.

He's come a long way since then, becoming Hope's Director of Public Relations, Hope's Sports Information Director, and SID for the Michigan Intercollegiate Athletic Association.

His responsibilities in Hope's Public Relations office include promoting virtually all college activities.

Despite the multiple titles and demands on his time, Renner is still considered to be among the top on his job.

"He's the best. He sets the standard," said President James Bultman (63). Bultman isn't alone in his opinion of Renner, his peers within the industry agree.

Renner has received numerous awards for his work including four first place awards (most recently in 1996) from the College Sports Information Directors of America for sports publications.

Also, in 1998 Renner was honored for a book he coauthored on the 100th anniversary of the MIAA. Renner was also honored by being invited to the 1996 Summer Olympics in Atlanta, Ga., where he helped manage the writers and photographers covering basketball and gymnastics.

The sports world of Hope College also has high praise for Renner. "He has set the standard here that other schools in our league (the MIAA) and in our division, Division III, strive to emulate.

They say, 'Why can't we be like Hope College,'" said men's athletic director Ray Smith.

Smith also adds that Renner's coverage is so good it actually sets other schools.

"I've had on more than one occasion a person from Calvin complain that Hope seems to get more coverage in the Grand Rapids Press than Calvin does, and that's in part due to Tom," chairman of the Kinesiology Department George Kraft said.

Kraft also adds that one of Renner's greatest strengths in his work ethic.

In addition to sports, Renner covers art, dance, music, public safety, and a host of other issues for Hope.

"When I think of Tom, he's got an incredible capacity for work. Nothing is too big or too small to tackle for Tom. He'll do whatever the moment requires to get done regardless of the job description," Kraft said.

Some of the things that Renner does to get the job done are posting updates on the school's website, "Hope Today" and "KnowHope.

Renner is responsible for all of the press releases that come out of the college, keeping Hope's sports hotline updated, sending out mass e-mails, and he has a radio show on WHTC five days a week.

"Tom has put Hope College in the national spotlight," said Kraft. "When you want to be recognized nationally, you need someone like Tom to do that for you."

Outside of Hope College Renner serves as a managing editor of the South Haven Tribune and for many years served as a volunteer member of the fire department, serving as assistant chief.

Renner and his wife, Carole (both members of the class of '67) have four grown children: Debra, Susan and Daniel all of whom attended Hope, and his daughter Rebecca ('01).

Looking for a place to worship?

Then come to Breakaway!

Breakaway is a non-traditional worship celebration featuring a praise band, drama, and practical teaching from the Bible. It's held every Sunday at 10:30 a.m. We don't think you'll come just once!

A van departs from outside Phelps at 10:10 a.m. and returns to Hope about noon.

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TRINH from 5

and in hopes that it will reach a wider audience. She plans to have the first issue up by the end of September, with a new issue at the end of each month throughout the year.

"I'm hoping that someone will gain interest in the magazine and be interested in continuing it next year as well," she said.

Trinh feels hopeful that the magazine will be well-received. She sent out a memo to all faculty explaining the project's purpose and mission statement and received positive comments.

"My goal is to provoke discussion and I want people to get beyond Hope and look at the bigger issues," Trinh said. "I want to give people an avenue to say what they feel needs to be said and get them to react to other viewpoints."

Although the website is still under construction, it can be viewed at http://members.spree.com/collene/themestone.

Laura G.: Here's your personal classified. Hope that this brings you out of your dark funk. If it doesn't, lie to me so I feel better.

Mike:

Julie: First, make sure Laura is out of her "dark" period. Second, don't lie about listening to the radio show. Third, study so you can actually have fun.

To those I promised classifieds. I'm sorry. You will receive a nifty message soon. - Mike Z.

Vote Z as Homecoming King

M- Lamb kabobs and cinnamon rolls are rad. Thanks a lot. - A

B-11: Thanks for a "vibrant" week. Dinner on us this week.

Black Squirrels o' Death: All heart and "born to kill." - Coach K.

B-11: Let's keep singing "Nookie." - MP: I am a privileged listener. Thank you for everything. (PS- I'm still not shaving.)

Hungry?

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Hope College Special

one large, one topping pizza

Only $5.99 + tax

(Restrictions may apply)
From the Stands
Andrew Kleczek

Sabbath Snafu

Drop those golf clubs! Put that frisbee down! This is Hope College, an institution founded on principles and one of those principals is following the Sabbath, which means no sports on Sunday.

This rule, based upon religious beliefs, is not only hypocritical, but it will probably be detrimental to Hope's athletics.

Case in point: Eric "Mr. Golf" Wohlfield ('02), one of the top freshman golfers in Division III, was invited to the Horton Invitational, a prestigious tournament hosted by Ohio Wesleyan. Wohlfield was originally told he couldn't participate in the event due to the fact the play spills over onto a Sunday.

Only after appealing to President James Bultman was Wohlfield given permission to go, but with stipulations. As part of the agreement, Wohlfield will bring a chauffeur, pay his own way, and his coach Bob Ebels is not permitted to attend.

He is also contesting as an independent; which means he won't receive anything from the school, including publicity, if he wins. Fortunately, Wohlfield is focused on getting to play, not on the snafu with the school.

He does not however see this problem going away.

"I don't doubt this will come up again in future meetings. It's probably something that won't be left by the wayside," Wohlfield said.

On the "golf affair" Bultman stated, "Hope has a rule that we do not practice or play on Sunday and nothing has changed on that."

So Mr. President, here's an idea. Since the rule is in place to help keep the Sabbath, why don't we close all college offices on Sunday—the Dow Center, Van Wylen Library, the Klets, DeVault Tennis Center, Peale and Van Zoren/ Vanderveldt?

While we're at it why don't we ban studying on Sunday as well, since it is a form of work and, in my opinion much more stressful than a little round of golf or a tennis match.

This would be the only way to keep the Sabbath: to shut down everything except food service and public safety and send all nonessential personnel home.

What? That wouldn't work?

Of course not. That's because the no sports on Sunday rule is in place not to keep the Sabbath, but to keep the appearance of keeping the Sabbath. After all we have to appear just as 'holy and Christian as the other religiously affiliated schools out there.

The bottom line is, this rule will keep coming up. In the long run it could hurt Hope, athletes and for what? So the school can look good to the Reformed Church? So Hope can stick its nose in the air and say "holier than thou" to those schools that do compete?

This is a bad rule with good intentions. It's time to change it or drop it altogether.

Grant's high school schedule.

"During the winter we'd practice eight hours a week on snow, plus races," Grant said. "In summer we'd train three months in different places. We'd train seven hours on the snow and four hours off it."

Practice, road travel, and racing took up Grant's study time. Long hours on the road and the sheer physical demand of downhill skiing took its toll.

"I was getting worn down," Grant said. "The road gets real old."

During his career, Grant tore his knee, broke ribs, almost lost a toe to frostbite and gained a permanent scar under his left eye.

Despite injuries and his retirement, Grant continues to rank among the top 10 skiers under the age of 19. In fact, this year Grant skied for Team Rolex, which sponsors the top 15 skiers in the nation.

Not many college freshman have contracts with ski corporations either. Grant endorses Volkl skis, Tecnica boots, Smith polos and googles and Salomon bindings. "I put in a good word for them and they pay for my equipment," Grant said.

It's a helpful arrangement since Grant's skis are expensive.

"You can't really use the skis I use—they cost a couple thousand a pair and they're especially made for racers," he said.

Despite his huge commitment to downhill racing, Grant still managed to play high school football for the Grand Rapids Christian Eagles.

"Football season is the only time I'm not skiing. It's my only free time," Grant said.

Although Grant enjoys college, he still feels the call of the slopes.

"I miss the speed, going out and skiing free. I miss the people," he said.

In fact, Grant plans on racing later this Thanksgiving in Colorado and perhaps more in January and February.

"After I quit, I entered a race and did some of the best skiing in my life. That was a big motivator," Grant said. "I'm going to do a few races and see how it goes. If I keep skiing well, I might take a few years off of school and ski full time."

But for now, Grant lives the typical life of a freshman, adjusting to dorm life, classes and Phelps food.

"I miss skiing, but I want to give college a try. I don't know," he said.

Sports

SKING FREE: Mike Grant ('03) was ranked number two nationally in downhill salmon for skiers 19 and under.

Student Tanning Specials at the Lakeshore's Largest:
Join our student membership for $10 & tan in standard equipment for just $2 a tan (must show student I.D.—program runs Sept. thru June) or come in for:

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On Felch, by the mall 249-3370
10 Tanning machines

Lakeshore Market Place
231-789-7636
15 Tanning machines

Lakeshore Market Place
231-789-7636
15 Tanning machines

Ottawa Village
313-789-5252
11 Tanning machines

Hope Hockey Oct. 8

JANE BAST
staff reporter

Once the number two skier nationally, Mike Grant ('03) now stands on the sidelines of the University of Michigan as a lifeguard for the Hope College football team.

Grant, who had been a member of the U.S. National Ski Team since he was 12 years old, quit earlier this spring after six years of life on the road.

Grant first hit the slopes at age two, cajoled by his mom and dad, Rita and John Grant. While his sister Sara ('99) started racing, Grant followed, participating in his first races at the age of four. "I started out really young and after that kept moving up," Grant said.

Grant continued to improve and was selected to join the U.S. development team while many of his classmates were still playing Little League. The commitment was intense.

"We went to special races and camps, we had special coaches. I'd travel with the team and be on the road all the time," Grant said.

The ski team often interfered with Grant's high school schedule.

"During the winter we'd practice eight hours a week on snow, plus races," Grant said. "In summer we'd train three months in different places. We'd train seven hours on the snow and four hours off it."

Practice, road travel, and racing took up Grant's study time. Long hours on the road and the sheer physical demand of downhill skiing took its toll.

"I was getting worn down," Grant said. "The road gets real old."

During his career, Grant tore his knee, broke ribs, almost lost a toe to frostbite and gained a permanent scar under his left eye.

Despite injuries and his retirement, Grant continues to rank among the top 10 skiers under the age of 19. In fact, this year Grant skied for Team Rolex, which sponsors the top 15 skiers in the nation.

Not many college freshman have contracts with ski corporations either. Grant endorses Volkl skis, Tecnica boots, Smith polos and googles and Salomon bindings. "I put in a good word for them and they pay for my equipment," Grant said.

It's a helpful arrangement since Grant's skis are expensive.

"You can't really use the skis I use—they cost a couple thousand a pair and they're especially made for racers," he said.

Although Grant enjoys college, he still feels the call of the slopes.

"I miss the speed, going out and skiing free. I miss the people," he said.

In fact, Grant plans on racing later this Thanksgiving in Colorado and perhaps more in January and February.

"After I quit, I entered a race and did some of the best skiing in my life. That was a big motivator," Grant said. "I'm going to do a few races and see how it goes. If I keep skiing well, I might take a few years off of school and ski full time."

But for now, Grant lives the typical life of a freshman, adjusting to dorm life, classes and Phelps food.

"I miss skiing, but I want to give college a try. I don't know," he said.